

MINUTES OF ROCKFIELD PTA MEETING: 26th August 2015

Attending: Cameron Harris, Neil Campbell, Jennifer Graham, Ann Marie Campbell, Lindsay Maclean, Leanne MacKay, Carol MacIntyre, Morven Gage, Lyndsay Elliot, Isabel Gibson, Maeve Kelly

(later Susannah Hughes, Caroline Fothergill, Linda MacGregor, Laura MacDonald, Donna, Sally Weaser, Hazel Kelso, Karen Cox, Kirsty Megan).

Apologies: Vivienne Duffy, Sharon Reilly, Adele Gillies

1. Approve minutes last meeting:

Proposed – Leanne MacKay

Seconded – Lindsay Maclean

Actions Arising from last meeting:

TUCK: prices are now on school web site. Check they are up-to-date.

ACTION: CF

2. Dates for new term

AGM	September 30 th 7.30pm
Halloween Disco	October 29 th
Holly Tea	December 5 th
Parents Social Get together	December 11 th (?) provisional

LE requested that school could please consider a day other than a THURSDAY for the next disco as this clashes with Otters. Perhaps Discos could be on Wednesday's for 2016 and revert to Thursdays for 2017, so swimmers don't always miss the discos.

ACTION: MK

3. Discussion of next AGM. SH provided draft Accounts. SH reminded us this is a 9 month financial year (also for OSCR return) as we are changing PTA financial year so accounts close June 30th and new financial year begins July 1st. We need minutes of last AGM for the next AGM. SH, MK to try and locate.

Division of Labour: with a view to making post-holders roles less onerous in terms of time commitment MK suggested she would provide a break-down of the various tasks, by email, before the AGM, in the hope that parents/carers would feel happier volunteering for a discrete, well-defined tasks and hence spread the load.

ACTION: MK

4. Fund raising

MG: in the joint PTA/PC format we now spend a long time discussing fund raising and not all parents attend PTA for that aspect; should we have a fund-raising sub-group?

Discussion over whether to have 'Owl Magic' at Holly or Daffodil Tea, voted to ask them to come to Daffodil Tea. Contact Owl Magic asap and re-arrange

ACTION: MK

Raffle: Vivienne has sent letters to numerous Oban businesses. We've had 2 positive replies (Distillery and Atlantis Leisure). We agreed raffle tickets would read, 'First Prize £100 Cash, Second Prize £50 cash', then a list of what prizes we have at the time of going to print and 'numerous other prizes' with a web-link to PTA web site where we can update list of prizes as they are donated. Aim to print in September, to have them for distribution in October?

Decide if another round of letters needed?

ACTION Vivienne and MK

5. Traffic and Transport: CF still trying to arrange a date with John Cowden and Shirley Johnston (?) of the Health and Safety Division (?) of Argyll and Bute Council to attend the school at 9.00am or 3.15pm to witness first hand the issue with cars parking in front of the school, in drop-off zones and on yellow lines and the hazard at the zebra crossing (this relates to a PTA request to move the fence back a little towards Willowview to widen the pedestrian access to the zebra crossing and to improve the line of sight for motorists approaching the crossing from the school car park). **ACTION: CF**
[CF adds a note for clarity: that any costs associated with this would have to be met by the council and that currently the view of the authority (CF having spoken to John Cowden) is that the main issue from the council's perspective is driver behaviour.]

SH reported that (Road Division, who?) would be receptive to an application for a crossing patrol (lolly-pop person) at McCaig Road for pedestrians coming down from the Nant Drive direction.

PTA to write a letter to Roads Department requesting same. **ACTION: SH/MK/CF**

SH requested that PTA could have input into establishing the timing for the flashing lights at the pedestrian crossing. It was also noted the lights are not promptly corrected for the hour changing.

Suggested timings were 08.15 – 09.15
 11.45 – 12.30
 3.00 – 3.45

Contact Roads Department ?

ACTION on SH/MK/CF

6. SH queried the **Attendance Certificates** handed out at Prize Giving. What is the rationale? Is there any evidence they achieve their aims. There was a feeling they are a tradition at RPS. CF: important to reward a range of achievements including academic/ sporting/ citizenship etc. The certificates are part of a number of ways of recognising achievement. SH suggested the need to separate days off because of illness from other absence. Does the current scheme penalise children with chronic health conditions and / or even encourage attendance at school when possibly contagious? CF will consult with all staff, parents and children and review if there is a desire to change the current system. **ACTION: CF**

7. Head Teachers Report was presented (appended), focus on Positive Behaviour and the 3 B's

8. Letter requesting parents to leave the playground before 9.00am bell discussed and various views presented. Some parents felt unhappy leaving before they had seen their child enter the school. The playground is chaotic (busy / boisterous) and also from a security standpoint, the playground is not well staffed (one staff member?).

CF: all staff are in school from 8.30am onwards and that members of staff can easily be accessed if there is any kind of issue in the playground. CF asked parents to consider this as a respectful request that parents leave to aid the calm and quiet procession of children, in lines, into class. Parents amongst children in the lines can be disruptive. CF will amend the request for parents of P1's to leave before 9.00am. Appreciation and understanding of the particular circumstances around accompanying P1 pupils until the bell goes will be taken into account. Compromise positions for parents of children other than P1's were discussed – CF would ask that all parents stand well back from the lines and do not try to exit the playground using the exits the pupils are taking while making their way into the building.

9. There are plans to resurrect **Pupil Council** (perhaps with another name), and the ECO-schools group . Can we please have a list of after school clubs with age ranges that can attend? CF will do

this once all clubs are up and running (confirmation of football and badminton, run by OHS PE teachers, some still awaited)

ACTION: CF

10. LMcD queried if pupils **lunch menu choices** were supervised as they were served? If a child picked items from more than 'meal', it was possible to end up with a very unbalanced selection of items. CF: this is not possible at present as staff have to supervise the children lining up and we have limited staff in the dining hall itself. She will speak to Ian about service.

ACTION: CF

Date of next meeting: AGM 30th September, 2015